

What's New in the MPDC

NOVEMBER 18, 2002

MPDC HONORS POLICE OFFICERS, CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS DURING ANNUAL CEREMONY

A lone gunman bent on revenge entered MPDC headquarters back in November 1994 and opened fire inside the offices of the Cold Case Squad – killing MPDC Sergeant Henry J. Daly and two FBI special agents. But thanks to the teamwork, skill and bravery of detectives and officers who responded immediately, one special agent who was shot and seriously injured was rescued and other lives protected. For their heroism these eight members – Officer Kenneth Bryson, Detectives Kevin Copeland, Christopher Kaufmann, Anthony Patterson and Neil Trugman (retired), Sergeants Brian Callen and John Rentz Jr., and Lieutenant Ronda Nunnally – were presented with long overdue recognition, the MPDC's Medal of Honor, during the Department's 3rd Annual Awards Ceremony this week at DAR Constitution Hall. Other awards were presented to four individuals who went to East Africa to track down and apprehend the leader of the street gang that was connected with the Police Headquarters shooting: MPDC Detective Anthony Brigidini, FBI Special Agents Mark Giuliano and John Kerr, and US Marshal George Walsh. In all, approximately 500 police officers, civilian employees and community members received awards this year from the MPDC in a variety of categories, including Valor, Lifesaving, Meritorious Service, Achievement and community service. Read more at:

The MPDC thanks this year's Awards Ceremony emcees – Kojo Nnamdi, host of "The Kojo Nnamdi Show" on WAMU-FM, and reporter Jackie Bensen of News 4 (WRC-TV) – for an outstanding job. information: mpdc.dc.gov (Click on News Room)

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CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST SNIPER SUSPECTS IN FATAL SHOOTING ON UPPER GEORGIA AVENUE

US Attorney Roscoe Howard and Chief of Police Ramsey announced this week that a felony complaint and warrant have been obtained in connection with the October 3, 2002, murder of 72-year-old Pascal Charlot, who was shot and killed in the 7700 block of Georgia Avenue, NW. The complaint, filed in DC Superior Court, charges John Allen Muhammad, 41, and John Malvo, 17, with first-degree murder while armed. The charge carries a possible maximum sentence of up to life in prison, if convicted. US Attorney Howard and Chief Ramsey indicated that while the investigation continues, they would like to commend the work of the Sniper Task Force, including members of the MPDC and the US Attorney's Office, for all of their efforts, which led to the filing of the charges. Muhammad and Malvo now face charges in several jurisdictions, with the first prosecutions expected in Virginia. Read the news release at:

DC experienced a particularly violent week, including four people shot to death in three unrelated incidents on Tuesday night. To help close these and other homicides, the MPDC offers a \$10,000 reward for information leading to an arrest and conviction in any unsolved homicide. To view some of "DC's Most Wanted," click on: mpdc.dc.gov/serv/solvers/mostwanted/mostwanted.shtm

mpdc.dc.gov (Click on News Room)

MPDC RECEIVES FEDERAL GRANT TO INSTALL VIDEO CAMERAS IN 27 MORE PATROL CARS

The US Justice Department's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) this past week announced a \$149,315 grant to purchase 27 in-car video cameras that will be placed inside MPDC patrol cars. The new cameras augment the 14 camera-equipped vehicles that the MPDC already has in use for impaired driving and other forms of traffic enforcement. Placing video cameras in patrol vehicles promotes officer safety and integrity, and can be particularly beneficial to law enforcement agencies, officers, and citizens during traffic stops. In-car cameras serve as a deterrent to assaults on officers, as a training device, and as evidence in trials. Including the grant to the MPDC, the COPS office has provided \$18.2 million to fund the purchase of more than 4,300 in-car video cameras nationally. For more information, go to:

mpdc.dc.gov (Click on News Room)

METROPOLITAN POLICE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS FACE SEVERE BUDGET PROBLEMS

The Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Clubs may be forced to shut their doors, at least temporarily, because of ongoing budget problems. The Board of Directors was notified that the eight clubhouses located throughout the city will close for the time being, and no one will be allowed in the buildings except for selected activities that have their own insurance. Chief Ramsey said the problem is not staffing; the MPDC assigns sworn officers to each of the clubs. Rather, the non-profit clubs are having trouble coming up with money to pay for insurance and other essentials – a shortage that has existed for the past several months. The clubs are actively negotiating for lower insurance rates. The clubs serve more than 5,000 DC youngsters through sports programs, tutoring and educational programs, computer labs, life skills seminars, job and career counseling, substance abuse prevention, an Early Intervention Program, and HIV/AIDS awareness. Individuals interested in donating to the clubs can do so on-line at:

www.mpbgc.org

UPCOMING

Chief Ramsey has two radio call-in programs scheduled for the upcoming week:

- On Monday, November 18, the Chief takes calls and e-mails from 10-11 am, on WTOP's "Ask the Chief" program.
- On Tuesday, November 19, he is scheduled for his monthly "Chatting with the Chief" segment on WHUR-FM's "Daily Drum" program, from 6:40-7 pm.

Information, ideas or comments about this service?

E-mail Kevin Morison, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at kevin.morison@dc.gov.

Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with crimereports.com.

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE
MPDC.DC.GOV